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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/675,645	09/30/2003	Julian Mitchell	16077IDUS01U	6074
22033	7590	09/26/2007		
NORTEL NETWORKS P O BOX 13828 RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, NC 27709-3828			EXAMINER WHIPPLE, BRIAN P	
			ART UNIT 2152	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 09/26/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/675,645

Applicant(s)

MITCHELL ET AL.

Examiner

Brian P. Whipple

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 September 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 20-47 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 20-47 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 20-47 are pending in this application and presented for examination.

Claims 1-19 were cancelled by applicant's amendment received on 8/13/07.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Objections

3. As to claim 23, ln. 2, the phrase "a private IP network addressing schemes" should read "a private IP network addressing scheme."

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

4. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

5. Claim 44 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claim(s) are directed to neither a "method" nor a "VPN media proxy," but rather embrace or overlap two different statutory classes of invention set forth in 35 U.S.C. 101 which sets forth the statutory classes of invention in the alternative only. *Ex parte Lyell*, 17 USPQ2d 1551 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1990).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

6. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

7. As to claim 44, the claim depends on parent claim 33, but is directed to a VPN media proxy whereas claim 33 is directed to a method. It may have been intended for claim 44 to depend on claim 43. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claims 20-47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Forslow, U.S. Publication No. 2002/0133534 A1, in view of Donovan et al. (Donovan), U.S. Publication No. 2002/0057786 A1.

10. As to claim 20, Forslow discloses a communication system (Abstract, ln. 1-4) comprising:

a plurality of virtual private networks (VPNs) interconnected by a first data network (Fig. 2-3; [0103], ln. 9-12; [0107]; [0110], ln. 3-6; Mobile nodes 3a and 3b may

belong to different mobile virtual private networks, but are connected across the access network 9.);

a second data network connected to the plurality of VPNs via the first data network (Fig. 1; [0106]; [0138]; Mobile nodes 3c and 3d belonging to Intranets 6c and 6d may communicate across the Internet 6, and then to mobile nodes 3a and 3b via the access network 9. Therefore, the Intranets 6c and 6d are connected to the mobile virtual private networks of 3a and 3b via access network 9. Hence, the Intranets are data networks connected to the plurality of VPNs via the access network, which is a first data network.); and

a VPN media proxy interfacing the first and second data networks (Fig. 1; [0104]; Communications between the first and second data networks are connected as discussed above. Home agent 1 is placed between the communications of access network 9 and Internet 6. Additionally, virtual home agents 1a and 1b are internal to home agent 1 and are each given a public IP address in order to receive packets intended for members of their respective physical or virtual home network. Therefore, the home agent acts as a VPN media proxy.).

Forslow is silent on the second data network using a network addressing scheme that is different to a network addressing scheme used by at least one of said plurality of VPNs; and

the VPN media proxy being configured to pass information from a source address in said at least one of said plurality of VPNs to a destination address in said second data network, the VPN media proxy having an address translator arranged to

translate the destination address of the information in accordance with the network addressing scheme of the second data network, and to send the information towards the translated destination address in the second data network.

However, Donovan discloses a data network using a networking address scheme that is different to a network addressing scheme used by a VPN (Fig. 2; [0010]; The IP network uses the IP address scheme that is different to the PSTN network addressing scheme used by the VPN.); and

the VPN media proxy ([0017], ln. 8-14 and 17-20; [0023], ln. 4-7; Multiple devices perform protocol translation to provide addressing between the IP and PSTN networks. Therefore, they act as media proxies within the VPN.) being configured to pass information from a source address in said VPN to a destination address in said data network (Fig. 2; [0017], ln. 17-20; Communications may be passed from telephone 43 from behind PSTN 37 to IP Phone 65 in IP Network 47. Therefore, the information is passed from a source address in the VPN to a destination address in the data network.), the VPN media proxy having an address translator arranged to translate the destination address of the information in accordance with the network addressing scheme of the data network (Fig. 2; [0017], ln. 17-20; [0030], ln. 4-12; Data communications may be sent between the IP Network and PSTN. Inherently, address translation must take place in order to enable such communications, as otherwise information could not be delivered to its end destination in the different addressing scheme of the intended network.), and to send the information towards the translated destination address in the data network (Fig. 2; [0010], ln. 9-11; [0017], ln. 8-14 and 17-

20; [0030], ln. 4-12; Inherently, the information is sent on to the translated address as communications between telephones using traditional PSTN and IP Phones on an IP network are enabled, and therefore address translation and communication on to an end destination must take place in order to enable communications between the respective telephone users.).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the teachings of Forslow by using an addressing scheme in a data network that differs from a VPN and enabling communications via address translation between the data network and the VPN as taught by Donovan in order to expand communications between networks using disparate addressing schemes for purposes such as expanding telephone communications to regions that use high speed data networks such as intranets and the Internet as opposed to traditional VPN service across public switched telephone network (Donovan: [0003]; [0007] – [0009]).

11. As to claim 30, 39, and 47, the claims are rejected for the same reasons as claim 20 above.

12. As to claim 21, Forslow and Donovan disclose the invention substantially as in parent claim 20, including the address translator is arranged to translate a destination address of information being transmitted from a source address in the second data network to a destination address in said at least one of said plurality of VPNs in accordance with the network addressing scheme of said at least one of said plurality of

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VPNs (Forslow: Fig. 1-3; Donovan: [0017], ln. 8-14 and 17-20; [0023], ln. 4-7; [0030], ln. 4-12; Bi-directional protocol translation occurs between the IP data network and the VPN utilizing PSTN in order to enable communications between IP Phones and traditional telephones as discussed for claim 1 above.).

13. As to claims 31 and 40, the claims are rejected for the same reasons as claim 21 above.

14. As to claim 22, Forslow and Donovan disclose the invention substantially as in parent claim 20, including a first data network is a public data network using a public Internet Protocol (IP) network addressing scheme (Forslow: Fig. 1, item 6; Donovan: Fig. 2, item 47), a second data network is a carrier data network using a private IP network addressing scheme (Forslow: [0117]; Donovan: Fig. 2, item 47; [0015]; [00023], ln. 13-15) and one or more of said plurality of VPNs uses a private IP network addressing scheme (Forslow: Abstract, ln. 4-8; [0122], ln. 1-4).

15. As to claim 23, Forslow and Donovan disclose the invention substantially as in parent claim 22, including where more than one of the VPNs uses a private IP network addressing schemes (Abstract, ln. 4-8; [0122], ln. 1-4), some of said private IP network addressing schemes have overlapping address ranges (Abstract, ln. 4-8; [0122], ln. 1-4).

16. As to claim 24, Forslow and Donovan disclose the invention substantially as in parent claim 22, including the carrier data network interfaces the public data network to a switched telephone network (STN) (Forslow: Fig. 1; Donovan: Fig. 2) via a trunk gateway (Forslow: Fig. 1, item 1) whose carrier data network IP address is the destination address for information being transmitted from a source address in any of the VPNs to a destination address in the carrier data network (Forslow: [0107]; Donovan: [0006], ln. 15-16; [0017], ln. 8-14 and 17-20; [0023], ln. 4-7).

17. As to claim 25, Forslow and Donovan disclose the invention substantially as in parent claim 24, including the STN is a public STN (PSTN) (Donovan: Abstract; Fig. 2, item 37).

18. As to claim 26, Forslow and Donovan disclose the invention substantially as in parent claim 24, including a VPN gateway interfacing the public and carrier data networks (Forslow: Fig. 1, item 1; [0117]; Donovan: Fig. 2; [0030], ln. 9-12), the VPN gateway being configured to transmit call signaling information between said at least one of said plurality of VPNs and the carrier data network via the public data network (Forslow: Fig. 1; Donovan: Fig. 2; [0015]; [0017], ln. 8-14 and 17-20; [0023], ln. 4-7 and 13-15; [0030], ln. 4-12) and the VPN media proxy being configured to transmit bearer information comprising a call between said at least one of said plurality of VPNs and the carrier data network via the public data network once a call has been established in response to said transmission of call signaling information (Forslow: Fig. 1; Donovan:

Fig. 2; [0017], ln. 8-14 and 17-20; [0023], ln. 4-7 and 13-15; [0030], ln. 4-12), the address translator of the VPN media proxy being configured to translate a destination address of said bearer information to the carrier data network IP address of the trunk gateway (Forslow: Fig. 1; Donovan: Fig. 2; [0017], ln. 8-14 and 17-20; [0023], ln. 4-17 and 13-15; [0030], ln. 4-12).

19. As to claim 27, Forslow and Donovan disclose the invention substantially as in parent claim 26, including the call signaling comprises voice over IP (VoIP) call signaling and the call comprises a VoIP call (Forslow: Abstract, ln. 19-21; Donovan: Fig. 2; [0030], ln. 4-12).

20. As to claim 28, Forslow and Donovan disclose the invention substantially as in parent claim 22, including the VPN media proxy is configured to provide a virtual routing function to each VPN (Forslow: Fig. 1, items 1 and 11; [0104]; Donovan: Abstract), each virtual routing function using a private IP network addressing scheme of its respective VPN (Forslow: [0122]).

21. As to claim 29, Forslow and Donovan disclose the invention substantially as in parent claim 28, including the address translator of the VPN media proxy is configured to provide a network address translation function to each of the virtual routing functions (Forslow: Fig. 1, items 1 and 11; [0104]; [0122]; Donovan: Abstract; [0017], ln. 8-14 and 17-20; [0023], ln. 4-7).

22. As to claims 32 and 41, the claims are rejected for the same reasons as claim 28 above.

23. As to claims 33 and 42, the claims are rejected for the same reasons as claim 29 above.

24. As to claim 34, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claim 22 above.

25. As to claims 35 and 44, the claims are rejected for the same reasons as claim 23 above.

26. As to claim 36, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claim 24 above.

27. As to claims 37 and 45, the claims are rejected for the same reasons as claim 25 above.

28. As to claim 38, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claims 26-27 above.

29. As to claim 43, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claims 22, 24, and 26-27 above.

30. As to claim 46, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claims 20-21 above. Additionally, Forslow and Donovan disclose storing the information related to translated destination and source addresses (Forslow: [0122], ln. 13-15; [0170], ln. 1-6; Donovan: [0017], ln. 8-14 and 17-20; Signaling and media gateways are known to rely on routing tables that store addresses for the purposes of routing packets throughout networks).

Conclusion

31. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See the Notice of References Cited (PTO-892).

32. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian P. Whipple whose telephone number is (571) 270-1244. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri (8:30 AM to 5:00 PM EST).

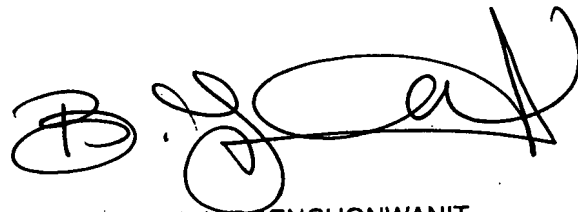
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit can be reached on (571) 272-3913. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

BPW

Brian P. Whipple
9/18/07

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

BUNJOB JAROENCHONWANIT
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

9/19/07